

A PROSPECTIVE STUDY OF ABDOMINAL MALIGNANCIES PRESENTING AS ABDOMINAL EMERGENCIES IN A TERTIARY CARE HOSPITAL

ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND :

Oncological surgical emergencies of abdomen are challenging battlefields for surgeons with respect to choice of procedures in absence of opportunity for proper evaluation and support of multidisciplinary approach. For appropriate management, it is important to understand the epidemiological and clinical profile of this disease complex.

METHODS :

A prospective study of abdominal emergencies encountered in our institution was done over a period of one year and the malignancies were studied with respect to clinical presentation and epidemiological characteristics.

RESULTS :

At our institution , the incidence of intraabdominal oncological emergencies requiring surgery was found to be 31% of total emergent presentation excluding abdominal trauma cases. Colonic malignancies(74%) and gastric malignancies(26%) were most common to present as emergency. Perforation peritonitis and GOO were most common presentations as acute emergency in carcinoma stomach. In colonic malignancies , obstruction was the only emergency presentation.

CONCLUSION :

Surgical intervention is often indispensable in the situation of a malignancy presenting as an emergency case , despite the awareness that most of these patients have only limited life expectancy.

KEYWORDS :

Oncological emergencies, perforation, malignancies, cancer, surgical emergencies.